

## Message Text

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15

ACTION AGR-20

INFO OCT-01 EA-04 ADP-00 ST-01 M-03 BAL-03 SS-07 EB-05

RSR-01 RSC-01 /046 W

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R 030308 MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2847

INFO AMCONSULCHIANG MAI

UNCLAS BANGKOK 6925

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: EAGR TH

SUBJ: OPRED - AGRICULTURE PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH ARS UNIT  
FOR RESEARCH ON NARCOTIC PLANTS.

REF : FASTM19, BANGKOK 4639

STATE 045942

BANGKOK 3360

PASS AGRICULTURE ARS

1. THE MISSION HAS FOUND FROM EXPERIENCE THAT WHILE AMERICAN MADE 4 WHEEL DRIVE VEHICLES ARE ADEQUATE IN NORTHERN THAILAND TERRAIN, UP- KEEP IS HIGH AND PARTS ARE NOT AVAILABLE. IN THE CHIANG MAI AREA NO PARTS ARE AVAILABLE FOR A JEEP WAGONEER. SHOULD THE JEEP WAGONEER NEED REPAIR IT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO ORDER PARTS FROM THE BNGKOK DEALER, WHO KEEPS A SMALL STOCK OF PARTS, OR MORE LIKELY PARTS WILL HAVE TO BE ORDERED FROM THE STATES.

2. MANIS HAS BEEN OFFERED THE USE OF A AID VEHICLE FOR 60 DAYS. THERE IS LITTLE CHANCE THAT THIS PERIOD CAN BE EXTENDED. IF PROCUREMENT OF AN AMERICAN MADE 4 WHEEL DRIVE VEHICLE WILL TAKE 6 TO 8 MONTHS TO REACH THAILAND, MANIS WILL BE WITHOUT AN OFFICIAL VEHICLE TO REACH THE HILL STATIONS FOR 4 TO 6 MONTHS. MUCH OF THIS PERIOD WILL BE DURING THE STARTING OF EXPERIMENTS WHEN HIS ADVICE WILL BE MOST NEEDED AND IT WILL BE NECESSARY FOR  
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HIM TO TRAVEL FREQUENTLY TO THE HILL STATIONS.

3. LAND ROVERS CAN BE DELIVERED WITHIN 2 TO 4 MONTHS, AND WILL POSSIBLY BE AVAILABLE BEFORE AID WILL RECALL THE VEHICLE IT HAS

LOAFD TO MANIS. PARTS FOR LAND ROVERS ARE READILY AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT THAILAND. ADEQUATE SERVICE FACILITIES ARE AVAILABLE IN CHING MAI AND OTHER NORTHERN THAI CITIES. FYI-- THE AMERICAN CONSULATE IN CHIANG MAI HAS BEEN PROVIDED WITH A LAND ROVER, WHICH HAS PROVED EMINENTLY PRACTICAL IN ITS UP- COUNTRY RESPONSIBILITIES.

4. SHOULD WASHINGTON NOT ALLOW OFFSHORE PROCUREMENT OF A 4 WHEEL DRIVE VEHICLE, MANIS WILL REQUIRE ADDITIONAL TRAVEL FUNDS AND AUTHORIZATION TO ALLOW HIM TO RENT SUITABLE TRANSPORTATION DURING THE 4 TO 6 MONTHS HE IS WITHOUT AN OFFICIAL VEHICLE.

5. SHOULD THE DECISION BE MADE TO PURCHASE A RIGHT HAND DRIVE 4 WHEEL DRIVE VEHICLE IN THE STATES, THE VEHICLE SHOULD HAVE A FACTORY INSTALLED AIRCONDITIONER AND HEATER.  
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NMAFVVZCZ  
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